

Volunteers Needed at Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill in Smyrna

NEW CASTLE (Feb. 16, 2018) – The Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill (DHCI) is seeking community volunteers to assist residents during upcoming holidays at the facility's grounds in Smyrna.

Groups and organizations are encouraged to volunteer to assist residents with activities and friendly visiting during Good Friday (March 30), Easter (April 1), Memorial Day (May 28) and the Fourth of July.

All of the events will be at the DHCI Candee Building, 100 Sunnyside Road in Smyrna.

"This is a great opportunity to give back and to share in the lives of the residents of Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill," Department of Health and Social Services Secretary Dr. Kara Odom Walker said. "Ask any past volunteers about their experience and I'm sure they will say they get back just as much as they give."

Year-round volunteers are also needed to make a difference in the lives of long-term residents with chronic illnesses.

"Many residents at the Hospital for the Chronically Ill may be without family," said Jennifer Bobel, volunteer services coordinator. "Volunteers help us make sure none of our residents feel alone, not only on important holidays, but every day."

High school students can earn Community Service hours for the Delaware college credit by volunteering at DHCI. The hospital's Summer VolunTeen program for high school and college students begins June 18. Applications are due by May 1. Program participants could be Music & Memory assistants, activity assistants, beauty shop assistants, physical therapy assistants or cookie bakers.

If you or your group is interested in volunteering, contact Jennifer Bobel, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at Jennifer.Bobel@delaware.gov or call 302-223-1011. You can also go to the DHCI website at www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dsaapd/volopp.html to download an application packet and more information about volunteering. Delaware Hospital for the Chronically Ill is a long-term care facility operated by DHSS. Admission requires both a financial and medical need.

The Department of Health and Social Services is committed to improving the quality of life of Delaware's citizens by promoting health and well-being, fostering self-sufficiency, and protecting vulnerable populations.